

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
21 July 2005 (21.07.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/066387 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **C23C 16/44**,
B08B 7/00

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/IB2004/004131

(22) International Filing Date:
10 December 2004 (10.12.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
2003-430763 25 December 2003 (25.12.2003) JP

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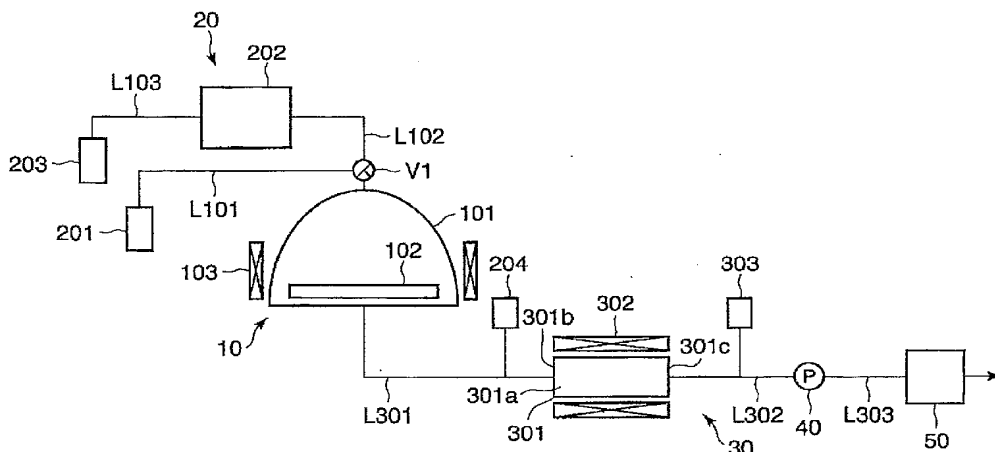
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD FOR CLEANING FILM-FORMING APPARATUSES



(57) Abstract: To provide an efficient method for cleaning film-forming apparatuses in order to remove a ruthenium-type deposit residing on a constituent member of a film-forming apparatus after said apparatus has been used to form a film comprising ruthenium or solid ruthenium oxide, wherein at least the surface region of the ruthenium-type deposit comprises solid ruthenium oxide. A ruthenium-type deposit, at least the surface region of which is solid ruthenium oxide, is brought into contact with reducing gas that contains a reducing species comprising hydrogen or hydrogen radical and the solid ruthenium oxide is thereby converted into ruthenium metal. This ruthenium metal is subsequently converted into volatile ruthenium oxide by bringing the ruthenium metal into contact with an oxidizing gas that contains an oxidizing species comprising an oxygenated compound, and this volatile ruthenium oxide is removed from the film-forming apparatus.

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FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO,
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN,
GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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Published:

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